

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONTEV 02122 302346Z
ACTION INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
SECSTATE WASHDC 6728

CONFIDENTIAL MONTEVIDEO 2122

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, AR, UY
SUBJ: LUIS MARIA DE POSADAS MONTERO, RECENTLY NAMED URUGUAYAN
AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA

1. IN MID-MAY THE GOU APPOINTED LUIS MARIA DE POSADAS MONTERO TO THE POSITION OF AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA. POSADAS, A LAWYER, SPECIALIZING IN TAXATION AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCE, HAS SERVED IN A VARIETY OF GOVERNMENT POSITIONS SINCE 1959, WHEN HE WAS ELECTED AS A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. FROM 1963 TO 1965 HE HELD THE IMPORTANT POSITION OF SECRETARY TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT, URUGUAY'S PRINCIPLE EXECUTIVE BODY AT THAT TIME. IN 1965 HE WAS NAMED AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN AND IN 1972 TO THE SOVIET UNION. IN 1976 HE HEADED THE URUGUAYAN DELEGATION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION OF THE RIO DE LA PLATA AND WAS NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION IN 1978.

2. POSADAS WAS BORN ON 25 JUN 3 1927 IN MONTEVIDEO AND RECEIVED HIS LAW DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF THE REPUBLIC. HE IS A CULTURED MAN OF BROAD INTERESTS WHO, IN ADDITION TO HIS LEGAL PRACTICE AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, WAS A PROFESSOR OF LITERATURE FROM 1948 TO 1958. HE IS A LIFE-LONG MEMBER OF THE BLANCO PARTY, WHICH HAS BEENN TRADITIONALLY IDENTIFIED WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE RURAL/PATRICIAN CLASS. HE HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS A MAN OF INTEGRITY, CAUTIOUS AND RETICENT.

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HE REPORTEDLY IS CONSCIOUS OF HIS ARISTOCRATIC BACKGROUND (THE POSADAS NAME IS ONE OF THE OLDEST IN URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA, AND HE CLAIMS DIRECT DESCENDANCE FROM THE ARGENTINE NATIONAL HERO, GENERAL MANUEL BELGRANO). NEVERTHELESS, HE IS KNOWN TO BE SERIOUS AND HARDWORKING.

3. HE IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER SARA MANEE GARZON AND HAS

FOUR CHILDREN. HE TRAVELED BRIEFLY TO THE UNITED STATES IN
1965 AND SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH AND SOME FRENCH.
CHEEK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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